



## **Year 2 (Fir Class) Parent Letter 2024-2025**

**Welcome back! I hope that you all had a great summer holiday. Please read the information in the letter below which you may find useful for the 2024-2025 academic year.**

Horton Kirby CE Primary School is incredibly passionate about ensuring that our children have opportunities to develop their curiosity through an aspirational and diverse curriculum which has been developed and adapted to meet the needs of all of our children and community. We provide a rich, broad and balanced curriculum that celebrates individuality, diversity and builds procedural knowledge to nurture talent and prepare children for the challenges and rewards of life and the wider world. Our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Reflection are embedded into our curriculum.

Within your 2024-2025 school year pack you will find:

- A key dates letter: A list of the main key dates for the 2024-2025 academic year. The dates and times listed are subject to change and some dates may only be relevant for specific year groups. If any other events or school trips are organised during the course of the school year then you will be informed of these via a letter, Arbor or SeeSaw.
- A long-term plan: This outlines the learning that will take place for your child within every subject for each term across the academic year.
- A medium-term plan (for term 1): This gives a more detailed overview of the lessons that will take place each week for every subject. A medium-term plan will



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be sent out and posted on Seesaw at the start of each term so that you and your child know exactly what they will be learning about.

- Class timetable: A timetable showing when each subject will be taught throughout the week. Some subjects will be taught every other term. In the case of special events at school, experiences or opportunities for cultural capital (learning opportunities which link to the children's learning) children will be off timetable.
- A Parent SeeSaw QR Code: Seesaw is the main way that I will communicate messages and reminders to parents. Please can **ALL** parents sign up to **Fir** class as soon as possible by scanning the QR code and following the steps. SeeSaw is also a great opportunity for children to share their work and learning with you. Once you have signed up, if you do have any questions or need to inform me of anything you can do so by sending a message via SeeSaw. I will aim to reply to you between 8.30-18.00 Monday-Friday. Alternatively, feel free speak to me on the playground after school if needed.

### **PE Days:**

Fir class's PE / Games lessons will take place on a Monday. On these days could children please come to school wearing their full PE / Games kit for the day. Children wearing the correct PE kit has greatly improved in recent times and is just as important as wearing the correct school uniform – thank you. To ensure that this continues, children's kit should include:

- A plain t-shirt corresponding to your child's house group.
- Black / blue shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers.
- A lightweight waterproof top, jacket (weather dependant).
- A plain jumper or hoody corresponding to your child's house group (weather dependant).

If children are wearing the incorrect PE kit a 'correct' school uniform slip may be sent home. If your child is unable to participate or please write a note for that day or send a message via SeeSaw. If this is a long-term reason, a doctor's note would be useful.



### **Cultural capital opportunities (trips):**

Fir class will have the opportunity to take part in the following during their time in year 2, these opportunities link to the Year 2 Horton Kirby curriculum:

- Drumming workshop at the end of Term 1 or beginning of Term 2.
- Trip to Wildwood in November
- Dance workshop for Chinese New Year in Term 3.
- Woodland walk
- Trip to Leeds Castle in Term 6 to link to our history work on Monarchs.

Children will also have a range of other experiences throughout the year – a full list can be found on the school website: [www.hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk/](http://www.hortonkirby.kent.sch.uk/)

### **Homework:**

#### **Reading:**

Throughout the year, children should choose **reading books** within their accelerated reader ZPD band that they will be reading both in school and at home. This book can be one from school or one that they have at home and would like to read (ideally a book that is on the Accelerated reader). This can be checked on: <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/default.aspx>.

Reading books should come home on a daily basis and children should read each night. As a school, we are always trying to improve parental engagement with reading, therefore where and when possible, we would encourage you to hear your child read aloud. If you do get the chance to do this with your child then please sign and date their reading record with the page that they have read up to each time that they have read. Every time your child reads with an adult than can colour in a star on their reading chart (stuck within their reading record) to work towards a bronze, silver or gold reading award.

When reading with your child, please ask questions about the text and discuss vocabulary with them - this is very useful as is encouraging your child to record new vocabulary with the meaning so that they can use this within their own writing where possible.



Once your child has finished a reading book they should take an 'accelerated reader' quiz about the book they have just read. If your child scores 100% on the quiz their name will go onto the 100% board and they will have the chance of winning a prize at the end of the term.

#### **Homework Folder:**

- **Comprehension & Maths** – Year 2 homework will be sent home with the children each Friday in their homework folder. Children must complete one comprehension sheet or one Maths sheet per week then self-mark it at home (with a parent) using the answers provided within the folder. Children will need to bring their homework folder into school by Friday each week so that I can check that all homework has been completed and identify any areas of difficulty. Please note that at the start of the school year there may be questions that the children have difficulty with as these skills may not have been covered in class yet – if this is the case children can either attempt it or leave it. Children's homework scores should progressively improve as more objectives are covered within lessons as the year progresses.
- **Spellings** – Spellings will be set each Friday on 'Spelling Shed' and will expire 6 days later. Children should log in using their given username and password (these are stuck into their reading diaries) and practise their spellings at least 5 times each week. They will be quizzed on a selection of these spellings as a dictation task every week.
- **Times Tables Rockstars:** All children must complete games on TTRS each week. The children's usernames and passwords are stuck in their reading diaries.

*\*Any homework that is not completed may need completing in school during break time – if there is an issue with your child completing or keeping up to date with their homework then please contact me via SeeSaw or speak to me on the playground after school.*

*\*Unfinished work within class could be sent home for completion.*

#### **Other information:**

- Children do not need to bring pencil cases into school – all equipment that the children need will be provided in school.



- Could all children please make sure that they bring a water bottle in with them each day.
- When the weather is wet/cold, could all children please make sure that they have a warm, waterproof coat.

I hope that you have found these notes helpful but please do not hesitate to speak to me should you have any questions or concerns. Before school is always an extremely busy time and I would therefore appreciate questions to be raised after school or via SeeSaw where possible.

**Kind regards,**  
**Mrs Holden**

